ABSTRACT

A network interface of a UMTS radio network controller encapsulates incoming AAL2/AAL5 packetized data such that it can be used on an Ethernet based IP network. A hardware unit is used to calculate additional information for the protocol overhead, including calculating length and error checking values. A partial header information is stored and used for each encapsulated packet of a session. In a preferred embodiment, the incoming packets are buffered in a linked data buffer including a linked list with pointers to the partial header information for the session as well as pointers to the incoming packets.